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MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

COLUMBUS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

HAMILTON, HARRIS COUNTY, GEORGIA.

Twenty-first of September, 1861.

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA:

DAILY SUN STEAM PRESS BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.

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MINUTES.

HAMILTON, HARRIS Co., GA., }
September 21st, 1861. }

The delegates from the Churches composing the Columbus Association met with the Baptist Church at Hamilton: Elder J. M. Watt preached the Introductory Sermon at 11 o'clock, from Romans, 8: 28. It being generally understood that Brother H. H. Tucker (agent for the Georgia Hospital Association,) had a previous appointment to address the citizens of Harris County on this day, in Hamilton, the business of the meeting was, by general consent, suspended, until the close of his address.

At the conclusion of Brother Tucker's address, Brother C. C. Willis called the members present to order. It being late in the afternoon, it was moved that the reading of the letters from the Churches should be dispensed with, and that Brethren E. H. Beall and W. C. Gray, be appointed to receive the letters and prepare a list of the delegates, to report on Monday morning, which was agreed to.

At the request of the members, Brother Willis appointed a Temporary Preaching Committee, viz: J. C. Leonard, Mark A. George, N. J. Bussey, and the delegates from the Hamilton Church.

Agreed to meet on Monday morning, in the Methodist Church, at 8½ o'clock.

The following services were held on Sabbath:

At 9 o'clock, Prayer Meeting in the Baptist Church.

At 11 o'clock, Brother Searcy preached the Missionary Sermon in the Baptist Church.

Brother H. H. Tucker preached in the College Chapel.

Brother A. Sherwood preached in the Methodist Church.

At 2 o'clock, Brother Carmichael preached in the Baptist Church.

At night, Brother Durham, in the same house.

The collection on Sabbath, for Missionary purposes, amounted to \$48.

The congregations were large and attentive.

MONDAY MORNING, 8½ O'CLOCK.—The delegates met at the appointed hour. Prayer by Bro. Sherwood.

The Committee appointed on Saturday, reported the names of the delegates, which was read and corrected.

The body was then regularly organized by electing Elder C. C. Willis, Moderator; Brother E. H. Beall, Clerk.

Appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Preaching.—J. C. Leonard, Mark A. George, N. J. Bussey, and the delegates from Hamilton Church.

On Business.—J. H. DeVotie, J. Harris, and G. W. Epps.

On Finance.—J. M. Watt, J. M. Lennard, and J. T. Johnson.

On Nominations.—E. H. Beall, Jesse Carter, and W. G. Davie.

On Documents.—M. J. Wellborn, W. M. Howell, and H. S. Reese.

The report of the Business Committee was read and adopted.

The regular order of Business was, on motion, suspended, to allow Brother Sherwood an opportunity to bring the claims of the "Christian Index" before the Association.

Resumed the regular business, and called for Correspondents, when the following Brethren announced their names as Corresponding Members, from

Western Association.—Brethren W. A. Calloway, J. H. Calloway, J. F. Greene, Hiram D. Williams, H. Carmichael, Jesse M. Calloway, and W. W. Prather.

Friendship.—Brother S. W. Durham.

Central.—Brother A. Sherwood.

Tuskegee.—Brother A. Whitten.

Bethel.—Brother B. L. Ross.

Appointed the following Corresponding Members to the

Western Association.—To be held with the Lebanon Church, 10 miles east of Newnan, Saturday before third Sabbath in September, E. H. Beall, H. S. Reese, and J. H. DeVotie.

Tuskegee.—To be held with the Elam Church, 6 miles south of Auburn, J. M. Watt, W. C. Gray, C. C. Willis, M. J. Wellborn.

On motion the correspondence with the Liberty and Eufaula (Ala.) Associations were discontinued in consequence of their meetings occurring on the same day with ours. Resumed the appointment of Correspondents.

Bethel.—Brethren W. M. Howell, and M. J. Wellborn.

Friendship.—To meet with the Antioch Church, 10 miles north of Butler, Saturday before third Sabbath in October, Brethren Jesse Car-

ter, E. H. Beall, W. C. Gray, W. M. Howell, J. W. Aven, W. G. Davie, J. S. Searcy, D. Lockhart, Joel King, E. Palmer, S. McCants, J. G. Johnson, J. Matthis, D. A. J. Willis, John Harris. G. W. Epps, C. C. Willis, J. C. Lennard, M. J. Wellborn, and J. H. DeVotie.

Rehoboth.—To meet at Forsyth, Saturday before third Sabbath in September, J. S. Searcy, D. Lockhart, and J. Matthis.

The Moderator appointed Brother J. S. Searcy to write the corresponding letter.

Appointed the following General Meetings :

Second District.—To be held with the Church at Talbotton, embracing the first Sabbath in August. Introductory by Brother J. S. Searcy.

Third District.—To meet with the Church at Emmaus, on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in July. Introductory by Brother Murphy.

Fourth District.—To be held with the Church at Macedonia, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in August. Introductory by Brother J. Harris.

First District.—To be held with the Church at Rehoboth, on Saturday before fifth Sabbath in June. Introductory by Brother E. S. Harris.

Read the following report of the Executive Committee :

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee, at the close of your last session, met and resolved to continue Rev. W. L. Osteen as your Missionary in the lower portion of the Association. He entered on his work but was soon taken sick, and was in a short time called to his rest in Heaven. His memorandum book showed that he had labored five days, for which we paid to his widow ten dollars.

Brother Osteen was an humble, faithful minister of Christ. He was a working minister. He labored to do good ; but he has gone to his reward in Heaven. His family are left in a dependent and distressed condition, which demands our warmest sympathy and material aid.

Let us be warned that we too must soon die ; our time is short. Let us work while it is day ; the night cometh in which no man can work.

Your Committee also appointed the Rev. W. W. Prather, of the Western Association, to labor in the upper part of this Association. He accepted the appointment and commenced the work about the first of April last. He reports forty-three days labor ; four hundred and ten miles traveled ; thirty-six sermons preached ; sixty-eight families visited ; ten dollars books sold, mostly Bibles and Testaments ; gave the poor

that were unable to buy books to the value of eight dollars, besides distributing a goodly number of tracts.

The books and Tracts furnished Brother Prather by your Committee cost \$27 50.

We have given Brother Prather an order on the Treasurer for eighty-six dollars in payment for his services. The labors and services enumerated have absorbed all the funds at our control.

Dear Brethren, your Committee fear that the cause of Missions is likely to suffer for the want of timely aid, on account of the state of the country, but allow your Committee to remind you that the cause of God has the first and strongest claims on our hearts and our money. Christ gave *all* for us : will we not willingly give to his cause a *portion* of our substance? In closing this report allow us to say that we ought by all means to sustain Brother Phillips in his field of labor, and also our native Indian Missionary. Let us determine, by the help of God, we will do our whole duty. Let us give to the cause of Missions if we have to curtail luxuries or even necessities at home. We have on hand in the possession of Brother George, a small lot of books, and in the Chairman's, \$7 10 worth. All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. C. WILLIS,	} <i>Ex. Com.</i>
H. S. ESTES,	
J. H. DEVOTIE,	
M. A. GEORGE,	
W. D. ATKINSON,	
T. B. SLADE,	
W. C. GRAY,	

N. B.—Brethren Slade and Atkinson, not being in attendance on the Association, were not present when this report was agreed on by the Committee.

Pending the adoption of the above report, several warm and stirring appeals were made in behalf of Missions, which resulted in a cash collection of \$137 75. The condition of Brother Osteen's family enlisted the warmest sympathy, and, on motion, the following Brethren, M. A. George, N. J. Bussey and M. J. Wellborn, were requested to receive subscriptions, payable on or before the first of January next, to the extent of five hundred dollars, which is to be invested by them in a tract of land, to be held and used for the benefit of Sister Osteen and her children.

The Brethren present subscribed the sum of \$322 25 to the fund.

On motion, the report of the Executive Committee was then unanimously adopted.

The Treasurer's report was read and referred to the Finance Committee :

TREASURER'S REPORT.

H. S. ESTES, *Treasurer, in account with Columbus Association.*
1860 and 1861.

	DR.
Amount on hand for Domestic and Indian Missions.....	\$4 50
Associational purposes.....	16 36
	<hr/>
Sent up by the Churches for Minutes.....	\$20 86
Support of Brother Phillips.....	43 25
Domestic Missions.....	346 64
Indian Missions.....	78 05
Home Missions.....	90 89
Associational purposes.....	56 03
Bibles in our own bounds.....	85 69
Support of Brother Phillips, collected on Sabbath.....	11 00
Bibles in our own bounds.....	45 95
Support of Brother Phillips, collection.....	25 48
Associational purposes, collection.....	26 15
Donation by D. P. Hill, Esq.....	26 15
Indian Missions, from Brother J. Cox.....	5 00
Support of Brother Phillips ".....	5 00
Domestic Missions.....	5 00
Sabbath School Union, Nashville ".....	5 00
Brother Ely, error sent by him.....	5 00
Columbus Church, through her Missionary Society, for Brother Phillips.....	18 00
Columbus Church, through her Missionary Society, for Indian Missions.....	100 00
Donation from R. W. Denton.....	25 00
Donation from Sister Rebecca Davis, for Brother Phillips.....	10 00
Donation for Indian Missions.....	\$10 00
	<hr/>
	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,052 16

	CR.
By Brother Taylor, Cor. Sec'y, for Brother Phillips.....	\$474 83
" Exchange on above.....	9 49
" Brother Taylor, Cor. Sec'y, for Brother Phillips.....	49 29
" Exchange.....	13
E. H. Beall, Clerk.....	30 00
" Columbus Times Minutes.....	30 00
" W. L. Osteen, per order C. C. Willis.....	56 06
" Mrs. Harriet Osteen ".....	10 00
" Refunded W. C. Gray.....	50 00
" Domestic Board, in New York Exchange.....	34 69
" Premium on ".....	86
" Domestic Board for Indian Missions.....	93 56
" Exchange on ".....	2 34
" Domestic Board, Indian Missions.....	35 00
" Sunday School Union, Nashville.....	5 00
" C. C. Willis, draft for Bibles.....	25 00
" Freight on books.....	75
	<hr/>
	\$826 99
Now on hand for following purposes:	
Home Missions.....	56 05
Minutes.....	29 64
Bible in our bounds.....	11 48
R. W. Denton's donation.....	10 30
Amount received by Brother Ely.....	18 06
	<hr/>
	125 17
	<hr/>
	\$1,052 16

H. S. ESTES, *Treasurer*

We have examined the foregoing report and find it correct.

J. M. WATT, *Chairman Finance Committee*

The Association then adjourned until 2 o'clock.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.—Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Brother B. L. Ross. Elected Brother H. S. Estes, Treasurer, and Brethren C. C. Willis, M. A. George, W. D. Atkinson, T. B. Slade, W. C. Gray, J. H. DeVotie, Executive Committee.

Appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Missions.—J. H. DeVotie, J. M. Watt, and E. S. Harris.

On Sabbath Schools.—J. S. Searcy, Wm. Amos, and E. H. Beall.

On State of Religion.—M. J. Wellborn, J. T. Johnson, and John Harris.

The following report on Missions was read and adopted :

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

When on the earth Christ was the embodiment of all that was pure and holy. He came as a missionary from Heaven to establish a kingdom that should extend “from the river to the ends of the earth.” The churches that were reared by the labors of the Apostles, were missionary bodies, striving to inculcate the sublime truths of our blessed Saviour upon the minds of the people. The Gospel is a missionary gospel, urging all believers to an unceasing warfare against the powers of darkness, and assuring us of the complete triumph of truth, at last, throughout the world. Actuated by the love of God, the Christian finds great consolation in the performance of those noble deeds of benevolence that characterized the life of our Lord and master. Impressed with his example, we feel the urgent necessity of employing our efforts and means to bless others with the benefits of the Gospel. In the Divine mind it was thought proper that the great work of evangelizing the world should be accomplished through the instrumentality of converted men.

Your Committee feel profoundly impressed with the importance of the mission cause, and in considering this subject, their minds naturally incline to our beloved missionary in Central Africa. When last heard from he was in good health, and zealously engaged in the work to which he has devoted his life. Notwithstanding he has been surrounded by serious difficulties, he continues to hold up the banner of King Jesus; and his labors have, to some extent, been blessed. The untiring devotion which he has, and continues to manifest, commends him to our highest Christian consideration, and inspires us with hope that ere long thousands of that benighted race will rejoice in the saving knowledge of the truth in Jesus Christ. It is sufficient for us to know that he has said, “Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hand and rejoice,” and that he has impressed the hearts of some to declare “the unsearchable riches of

Christ," to that people. We confidently hope and earnestly pray that the most happy results may attend their labors.

The China mission is progressing with good results. That vast empire, with her teeming millions, is now open to the missionary work. The consideration and respect shown our missionaries induce us to believe that the day of her salvation is drawing near. How should we, as a Christian people, feel in view of the millions that are starving for the bread of life.

Other Foreign departments are progressing as well as circumstances will permit. From all quarters the Macedonian cry is heard. And the question arises, why is it that so few respond to these urgent calls? Is it that there is wanting a true missionary spirit in our hearts? Is it that there is not a sufficient love of souls and Christ among the ministry? and too little of that self-sacrificing spirit that characterized our Saviour on the earth? God forbid. The question with all should be, "Lord, is it I?"

Your Committee regret that in consequence of the war that exists and failure to obtain means our Associational and Domestic Missions have suffered. Many of the laborers have been withdrawn for want of support. This should not be so. We should lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes at home, that we may have a consciousness of having performed the sacred obligation that is imposed upon us, and that an influence may emanate from us, as a Christian people, that shall tend to bless future generations. Our destitute white population, as well as the five millions of blacks in our Confederacy, have a strong claim upon our Christian sympathy and labors. Our brave soldiers in the tented field should receive our fervent prayers and unceasing efforts to promote their temporal and spiritual interests.

The Indian department of our missions is one of vital importance. They have felt the power and influence of the Gospel. The tiger has been changed to the lamb. They are rapidly becoming a great people in religion and the industrial pursuits of civilization. They are identified with us in feeling, interest and action. Thousands of them are contending side by side with our own race, against a common foe, for the dearest rights of freemen. This is the result of Gospel light. This mission has been extremely successful and commends itself to our highest Christian confidence.

Your Committee are profoundly impressed with the great importance in these perilous times of more earnest prayer to the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into his harvest, and more constant effort in

advancing this great cause, remembering that he is faithful who hath promised "that if you give, it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together and running over, shall men give into your bosom."

We recommend to Pastors of Churches to present this subject faithfully and earnestly to their congregations, and use every laudable effort to increase the spirit of missions among them. Love and gratitude demand of us every sacrifice of effort and means to extend Christ's kingdom in the world. "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be made rich."

We also recommend that the contributions made on the Sabbath and during the deliberations of the body, unless otherwise designated, be appropriated to the Phillip's mission.

Respectfully submitted, JNO. S. SEARCY, *Chairman.*

Report on Sabbath Schools was read and adopted.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee to whom this Association at its last session referred the subject of Sabbath Schools, report that the importance of these institutions is enforced by a variety of Scriptural authority, by reason and by observation. They are designed and adapted to bring the weightiest of all topics, religious truth, before the mind at the earliest moment of its power to comprehend, while they tender their benevolent aid to enquirers after religious knowledge of every age. The great mass of the scholars being of tender years, the teacher approaches them unobstructed by those discouraging obstacles which greater age generally interposes. The conscience is not as yet seared, feeling flows freely, and the young heart yields the more readily to Christian solicitations. The force and permanence of first impressions, too, is proverbial. All classes of society agreeing to the utility of these agencies, we are able in our enquiry for functionaries and pupils for them, to address ourselves to all readers. Let every one not connected with a Sabbath School propound the enquiry, why am I not? Is there no one to whom I could in this way impart knowledge out of the great storehouse of God's revealed truth? Am I unable as a student to learn of others any thing concerning the will of my Creator and the salvation of my soul? What good reason can I give to the final Judge or to my own conscience for my failure to take part in this Heaven-appointed enterprise? Parents who are blessed with offspring and access to these in-

stitutions are in danger of incurring a heavy responsibility both as it concerns themselves and their children if they fail to avail themselves of their instructions. They are natural counter-actives to the sin of Sabbath-breaking, powerful nurseries of true wisdom and a fruitful source of the Church's increase, enlightenment and spirituality. Nor is it in the crowded city or populous village alone they are needed. What place more loudly calls for them than the crowded prison? They should be regarded as a constant ally of every church, should be especially looked to in neighborhoods where the supply of the Gospel ministry is imperfect—and indeed there are few families containing children, white or black, in which they would fail to bring rich rewards. Slaveholders especially should lay to heart the solemn and affecting relations they bear to their slaves in respect of their spiritual instruction and the vast amount of good they might very conveniently bestow upon them in this precise way. We would affectionately urge this point on the prompt and systematic attention of Christian masters. Nor would we be understood as restricting the duty to actual professors of religion, but your Committee would respectfully recommend to all heads of households who believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament contain the word of eternal life, to consider whether it would not be well for them to resort to this method of learning and teaching the way of salvation. We should all remember that what God requires of us is, not that we be great, but that we be good. “The meek will he guide in judgment.” A very moderate share of intelligence, coupled with suitable study and diligence will suffice, under the approval of Heaven, to reach great and glorious results through this instrumentality.

Your Committee would be gratified to go into the formula of organizing and conducting these Schools, as also into a statement of some of their known results, but to do so with effect would swell their report beyond reasonable limits. They would respectfully recommend those who feel called upon to take part in them, either as functionaries or as students, to consult some of the numerous treatises concerning them to be found in print. The “Teacher Taught,” published by the American Union, originally, and on sale in the city of Columbus, is in the mind of the Committee in this connection.

Before closing your Committee would venture to ask attention to three specific points proper in their judgment to be made in these Schools.

First. The end of them should be kept permanently in the view of principals and pupils, viz: the honor of Him who is the fountain of

honor and the salvation of souls. For this let all connected with the School pray, labour and look.

Secondly. The Sabbath School is a missionary work. The teacher of a Sabbath School is a missionary. All honor and praise to the great Head of Christian missions: we live in a missionary age. Let the instructors in these institutions, under appropriate texts of Scriptures, explain, enforce and propagate the cardinal duty of Christ's Church in the world, to pray, labor and spend of their substance, for the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom over the whole earth. The general duties of Christian benevolence and Christian beneficence find an inviting field in these nurseries of holiness and love.

Thirdly. The duty of temperance is a conspicuous Christian obligation. What a grievous sin is not drunkenness? What a prolific source of iniquity and evil is not the thing of occasional or temperate drinking, so misnamed? Let no quarter be shown here. The Sabbath School is rarely corrupted with criminal lust of dram-drinking. Now and here the effort should be to close the door against this monster-curse. The Scriptural watch-cry of all the past should be the Christian's motto for all the future—"Touch not, taste not, handle not, the unclean thing."

M. J. WELLBORN, *Chairman.*

J. H. DEVOTIE.

J. M. LENNARD.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee on the State of Religion would respectfully report :

That from the tenors of the letter to the Association (which is the most reliable source of information,) they think the religious condition of the Churches lamentable. The number received by Baptism is far less this than the past year, and the amount of money contributed by the Churches for Missionary purposes is distressingly small; coldness seems universal. We rejoice to see, however, that some of the Churches ask for the prayers of God's people. It is hoped that this request will not be disregarded, and that all our Churches will remember each other at a common mercy seat.

But we inquire, why such coldness? such declension? Is it because our souls are not as valuable now as they were twelve months since? or is it because we have allowed our secular interest to usurp the *time* and *talents* we should devote to our *spiritual* interests? The things of this world, with all their pomp and parade, are but as grass compared to

those of eternity, and the future destiny of an immortal spirit that must live while all things earthly have sunk into oblivion.

But there are two causes for the present state of religion, which we will mention.

First. The Ministry have been exercised more by the war spirit than by the spirit of the Gospel. They have preached war in the social circle and from the pulpit, instead of the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.

Secondly. The Churches generally meet too seldom for religious services. In many cases but once each month. This custom is the parent of many evils. Churches grow cold. Brotherly love decreases, and the Sabbath day, which we should "Remember to keep holy," is continually violated.

So far as our information extends we are without any example, either in Scripture or among the early Christians, for this ruinous custom. In view of the present state of the country we would exhort our Ministers to *preach the Gospel* in all simplicity and humility.

Let the Churches meet weekly instead of monthly. If they cannot have preaching every Sabbath engage in prayer meetings and Sabbath Schools. God will hear when his children cry unto him. By this means coldness will be removed, brotherly love and good works will abound. The Sabbath day will be respected and properly observed. The burden on the ministry will be lightened, and every Christian heart will rejoice that they have in an humble way contributed something to the extension of the cause of religion. It was never intended that a few of Christ's servants should bear such a vastly disproportionate part of the toil and labor in extending the Redeemer's kingdom.

In view of the solemn realities of a coming judgment we would exhort the Churches to a speedy reformation.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. JOHNSON.
H. S. REESE.
J. MATTHIS.

Pending the adoption of the report, Brother J. G. Johnson, at the request of the Association, led in Prayer for a revival of true and vital religion in our bounds. After which the report was unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

There is nothing in the letters from the Churches demanding the attention of the Association.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

Brother John Harris to preach the next Introductory Sermon; Brother C. C. Willis, Alternate. Brother J. H. DeVotie to preach the Missionary Sermon; Brother W. D. Atkinson, Alternate.

Brother Searcy submitted the Corresponding letter.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Columbus Association to those with whom she Corresponds..

DEAR BRETHREN :

We have, in the Providence of God, been permitted to meet again for the purpose of communing together in Christian affection, and to set in order the things that pertain to Christ's kingdom. A full representation from all the Churches, except four, was in attendance, and notwithstanding we mourn in consequence of spiritual dearth in many of them, our hearts rejoice that some have been graciously revived. Our correspondence has been full, and we feel that your presence with us has been productive of much good. Harmony and Christian feeling have characterized our deliberations.

On motion, it was agreed to print 1,200 copies of the minutes, and to pay the Clerk thirty dollars for his services.

Appointed the next session of this Association with the Mount Zion Church, seven miles east of Talbotton, Ga., to convene on Saturday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1862.

Elected the following Delegates to the State Convention : J. H. DeVotie, C. C. Willis, J. G. Johnson, W. C. Gray, J. S. Searcy, M. J. Wellborn, John Harris, J. M. Watt, M. A. George, and W. D. Atkinson.

Read and adopted the Report of the Finance Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

DEAR BRETHREN : Since your last Association death has removed two of our beloved Ministers from our midst. Brother Wm. L. Osteen died in November last. He was lovely in spirit, and devoted to his Master's cause. He lived and labored for the salvation of souls. His education was quite limited, yet by his deep toned piety and consistent life he was useful in his Lord's vineyard. He has left a feeble wife and three children to mourn and feel most keenly the loss they have sustained in the death of one so faithful and dear to them. But God doeth all things well. We recommend to the sympathies and kind regards of our Brethren and friends the widow and children of our de-

ceased brother. They are dependent on friends for aid. Brother Osteen was serving three Churches and laboring as your Missionary at the time of his death.

Brother W. S. Johnson was a young Minister, of much promise. He had been connected with the Church for several years previous to his ordination to the full work of the Gospel ministry. He, however, felt from the moment of his conversion that he must preach the word of life, but resisted these monitions of the spirit until November, 1860, when he was regularly ordained. His determination then was to devote his time and talents exclusively to his Master's cause. Immediately after his ordination he was called to the Pastoral care of the Baptist Church in Cusseta, Chattahoochee county. His prospects for usefulness were highly flattering. He possessed fine natural abilities, which had been well cultivated by education. His manners were simple and genial, connected with fine oratorical powers, his future seemed to promise much for the good of his fellow men. But, alas! death nipped all these expanding flowers in the bud. He expired in January last at his residence in Cusseta, and has left a wife and children with stricken hearts, with whom we would sympathise.

Both these Brethren died happy in the triumphs of a living faith.

Let us be also ready, for the master will soon call for us.

C. C. WILLIS.

J. H. DEVOTIE.

W. C. GRAY.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That eighteen dollars, amount of error returned by Brother Ely, and the donation of ten dollars by Brother R. W. Denton, be equally divided between the African and Indian Missions.

Resolved, That enough of the collection on Sabbath be added to the Indian Mission fund to increase it to one hundred dollars.

Resolved, That all funds in the hands of the Treasurer not specially directed to other purposes, be applied to the support of Brother Phillips.

Resolved, That each Church (members of this Association) be requested to send to our next session the date of their Constitution, with a short history containing such facts as would prove interesting and worthy of preservation.

Resolved, The Clerk be and is hereby instructed to have the minutes of this body (not already bound) placed in book form.

Resolved, That Brethren C. C. Willis, J. H. DeVotie and W. C.

Gray be appointed a Committee to prepare an obituary notice of Brethren W. S. Johnson and W. L. Osteen, to be inserted in the Minutes.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to our Methodist Brethren for the use of their Church building, and that our thanks be returned to them and the citizens of the Village and neighborhood for their hospitality and kindness to the members of the Association.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That any member of this body shall be a messenger from the same to any other Association with which we correspond, upon presenting a copy of our minutes.

Resolved, that the delegates to the convention be empowered to fill vacancies that may occur in their number from this body.

A motion was then made to adjourn, which was adopted.

The Moderator closed the meeting with a few feeling remarks. A hymn was sung. Brother J. H. DeVotie closed with prayer.

C. C. WILLIS, *Moderator*.

E. H. BEALL, *Clerk*.

NOTE.—The Letters do not give the name of the Pastors, in many instances, and the Clerk has filled the name in the Scale of Churches for 1861 from the best information he could obtain; he thinks they are generally correct. The following Churches were not represented: Mount Gilead, Harris county; Concord, Talbot county; Juniper, Talbot county; Mount Vernon, Talbot county.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

CHURCHES.	Minutes.....	Phillips'.....	Domestic Mission.....	Indian Mission.....	Home Mission.....	Associational Purposes.....	Total.....
<i>Harris County.....</i>							
Hamilton.....	3 00	53 20					56 20
Mount Olive.....	75						75
Shiloh.....	1 50	8 30					9 80
Hehoboth.....	1 50	7 00		3 00			11 50
Bethesda.....	1 50	3 50		3 00			8 00
Bethlehem.....	1 00	11 50					12 50
Antioch.....	1 50	3 00					4 50
Piney Grove.....	1 00			6 00			7 00
<i>Talbot County.....</i>							
Talbotton.....	1 50	5 00		5 00			11 50
Mount Zion.....	1 00	16 35		16 00			33 35
County Line.....	1 25	12 50	2 00	3 00			18 75
Horeb.....	75	3 00		3 00			6 75
Liberty Hill.....	1 50	13 00		13 50			28 00
Sardis.....	1 00	4 00					5 00
Valley Grove.....	1 00	8 00		2 00			11 00
<i>Muscogee County.....</i>							
Columbus.....	5 00						5 00
Emmaus.....	1 00						1 00
Mount Zion.....	1 00	6 75		75	1 00		9 50
Bethel.....	2 00	47 30		10 00	2 00		61 30
<i>Chattahoochee County.....</i>							
Good Hope.....	1 00						1 00
Bluff Spring.....	50						50
Harmony.....	1 50			11 00	9 50		22 00
<i>Meriwether County.....</i>							
Mount Hope.....	50						50
Macedonia.....	1 00	5 00					6 00
<i>Stewart County.....</i>							
Beulah.....	2 15					4 00	6 15
New Hope.....	1 00		21 00	1 00	1 00		24 00
							\$362 05

RECAPITULATION.

For Minutes.....	\$36 40
" Support of Brother Phillips.....	207 40
" Domestic Missions.....	23 00
" Indian Missions.....	77 75
" Home Missions.....	10 50
" Associational Funds.....	7 00
" Collection on Sabbath.....	48 00
" " on Monday.....	137 75

\$547 80

Which is respectfully submitted,

J. M. WATT, *Chairman.*

J. T. JOHNSON.

J. M. LENNARD.

SCALE OF CHURCHES FOR 1861.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.	DELEGATES.		Baptised.....	By Letter.....	Restored.....	Dis. by Letter.....	Excluded.....	Dead.....	Whites.....	Blacks.....	Total.....
			*Ordnained.	†Licensed.									
<i>Harris County.</i>													
Hamilton.....	J. G. Johnson.	E. H. Beall, Hamilton.	{*J. G. Johnson, E. H. Beall, S. Mc- Gents, J. T. Johnson, S. Bordin;		13	4	1	12	7	2	34	250	254
Mount Olive.....	H. S. Reese.	W. R. Moore, Mulberry Grove.	M. F. Mosely, T. H. Moore.		13			3	1	48	21	69	284
Shiloh.....	John Harris.	M. A. McAtee, Quito.	P. Grant, J. Johnsey.		1	1		14	6	60	15	75	284
Rebooth.....	C. C. Willis.	W. H. Thompson, Columbus.	O. Ely, *H. S. Reese.		1	0		6	2	38	22	60	75
Bethesda.....	G. W. Epps.	J. Mathis, Ellerslie.	*G. W. Epps, J. Mathis.		2	5		1	1	49	43	8	92
Bethlehem.....	E. S. Harris.	T. C. Jones, Hamilton.	†D. Miller, T. C. Jones.		2	5		1	1	49	43	8	92
Antioch.....	S. W. Barry.	W. J. David.	*J. W. David, W. H. Olive.		1	1		5	2	4	65	3	73
Finney Grove.....	J. N. Embury.	J. W. Harper, Mulberry Grove.	*J. N. Embury, J. Cox.		1					43	2		45
<i>Talbot County.</i>													
Talbot.....	W. D. Atkinson.	T. M. Lumsden, Talbotton.	Jesse Carter, Jas. C. Lennard.		1	7		12	1	1	55	43	98
Mount Zion.....	J. S. Searey.	W. H. Searey, Talbotton.	*J. S. Searey.		1	7		7	1	1	63	47	110
County Line.....	John Harris.	M. O'Neal, Waverly Hall.	M. O'Neal		1	2		7	1	3	48	27	75
Horeb.....	J. S. Searey.	L. D. Lockhart, Daviston.	D. Lockhart, D. A. J. Willis.		1	2		7	3	32	12	64	75
Liberty Hill.....	W. D. Atkinson.	W. D. Emanuel, Box Spring.	Joel King, W. G. Davie.		1	2	1	2	1	38	38	10	91
Sardis.....	W. D. Atkinson.	J. M. Proctor, Talbotton.	W. F. Shelling.		2	2		5	1	1	35		45
Valley Grove.....	J. Harris.	B. B. Kendrick, Pleasant Hill.	*John Harris, *E. S. Harris.		2								86
<i>Massey County.</i>													
Columbus.....	J. H. DeVolie.	J. M. Estes, Columbus.	{*J. H. DeVolie, *J. M. Math, W. C. Gray, H. S. Estes, M. J. Wellborn.		15	10	2	8	8	0			760
Emmaus.....	T. H. Murphy.	J. C. Reedy, Columbus.	L. K. Willis, J. Hays.		2	2		5	1	1	44	16	60
Mount Zion.....	C. C. Willis.	J. D. Fortson, Columbus.	J. J. David, W. N. Jones.		4	4	1	5	3	1	40	12	52
Bethel.....	C. C. Willis.	J. W. Threlkeld, Columbus.	*C. C. Willis, A. Lynch, J. C. Leonard.		1	11	1	12	2	3	63	58	151
<i>Chatham County.</i>													
Good Hope.....	T. H. Murphy.	W. H. Parkman, Columbus.	*Wm. Anos.		2	5		17	1	1	86	39	125
Bluff Spring.....	Jas. Reese.	A. M. Sheppard.	E. Palmer.		4	11		6	1	1	10	14	104
Harmony.....	T. H. Murphy.	D. C. Coady, Chaseta.	M. A. George.										
<i>Maryland County.</i>													
Mount Hope.....	W. W. Prather.	E. J. Vardeman.	Levi Phillips.		2	1		1	4	1	24	1	25
Macedonia.....	E. S. Harris.	W. F. Andrews, Chalcypentecost.	*W. F. Andrews.		1	8		4	1	1	70	4	74
<i>Stewart County.</i>													
Bethel.....	T. H. Murphy.	J. S. Willis, Green Hill.	*W. M. Howell.		1	5		11	1	2	86	44	130
New Hope.....	T. H. Harris.	K. J. Brunsy, Jamestown.	N. J. Brunsy, J. W. Aven.		1	5		11	1	2	21	1	32
<i>TOTALS.</i>													
					1705	6	147	53	1217	729	3045		

NAMES AND POST OFFICES

OF THE

MINISTERS OF THE COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION.

Ordained.

W. D. ATKINSON	Talbotton.
J. H. DEVOTIE.....	Columbus.
J. W. DAVID.....	Mulberry Grove.
G. W. EPPS.....	Waverly Hall.
J. N. EMBRY.....	Mulberry Grove.
JOHN HARRIS.....	Quito.
E. S. HARRIS	Quito.
W. M. HOWELL	
J. G. JOHNSON.....	Hamilton.
M. F. MOSELY.....	Whitesville.
JAMES REESE..	Columbus.
H. S. REESE.....	Columbus.
T. B. SLADE.....	Columbus.
J. S. SEARCY.....	Talbotton.
C. C. WILLIS.....	Steam Factory.
J. M. WATT	Columbus.
J. D. WILSON.....	Talbotton.

Licentates.

WM. AMOS.....	Columbus.
F. C. DAVID.....	Mount Hill.
DENNIS MILLER.....	Hamilton.
J. FITZPATRICK.....	Hamilton.
GEORGE PALMER.....	Columbus.

